

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated January 15, 2009 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7-9, 12, 13, 15 and 16 are pending. In this reply, claims 1 and 9 have been amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the Application, referring the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

In the Office action, claims 1, 4, 7-9, 12, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kono et al.* (US 2001/0043291, hereinafter “*Kono*”) in view of *Nakanishi et al.* (US 6,781,642, hereinafter “*Nakanishi*”), and in further view of *Arledge et al.* (US 5,436,744, hereinafter “*Arledge*”). Claims 5 and 13 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kono* in view of *Nakanishi*, and in further view of *Arledge* as applied to claims 1 and 9 above, and further in view of *Murakami et al.* (US 6,570, 707, hereinafter “*Murakami*”).

Applicants respectfully submit that *Kono*, *Nakanishi*, *Arledge* and *Murakami*, singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest every element of the independent claims 1 and 9.

The amended independent claims 1 and 9 recite the following feature of “the flexible printed cable extends in a first direction from the first bend to overlap the driver IC and the flexible printed cable has a second bend to extend past the driver IC in a second direction over a printed circuit board and connects to a touch panel controller, so that the signal applying lines are not contacted with the driver IC.”

FIG.13

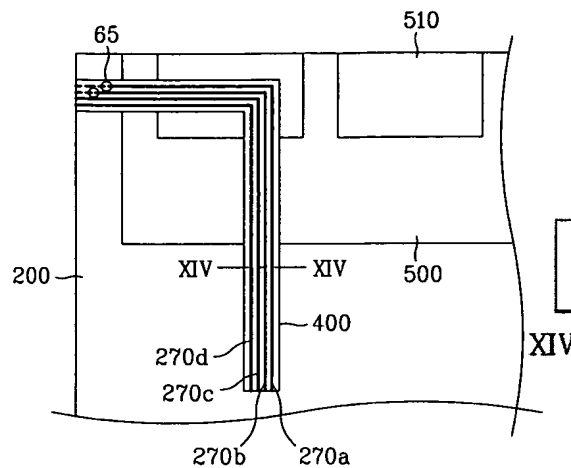
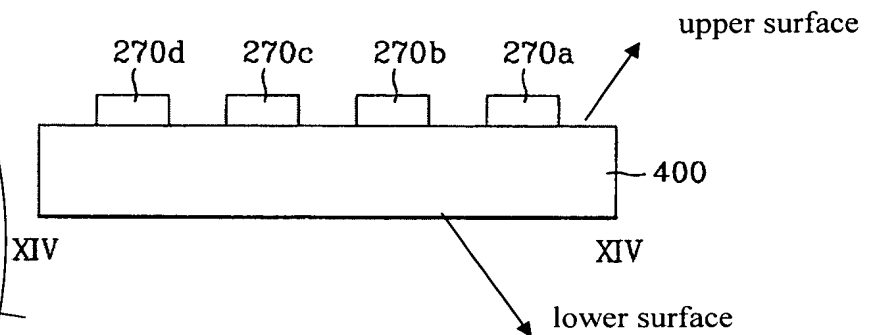


FIG.14



Referring to Figs. 13 and 14 of the present application, as shown above, a portion of first signal applying lines 270c, 270d of the plurality of signal applying lines 270 (270a, 270b, 270c, 270d) on a lower surface of the first part of the flexible printed cable (FPC) 400 connects to a portion of the first signal applying lines 270a, 270b of the plurality of signal applying lines on an upper surface of the second part of the FPC 400 through the plurality of through holes 65 before the FPC 400 overlaps the driver IC 510, so that the signal applying lines aren't contacted with the driver IC 510. Further, illustrated above, the FPC 400 is bent in a 'U' shape to be connected to the touch panel controller.

The Office admits that "*Kono* does not expressly disclose wherein the FPC extended to a rear side of the display device ... wherein the FPC is bent over an edge of the upper and lower substrates from a top to a bottom of the display device" Thus, *Kono* does not teach or suggest the above noted features of the claims.

Nakanishi fails to cure the deficiencies of *Kono*. As shown in Figure 6, Nakanishi merely discloses a transparent touch panel 41 and LCD device 43 "coupled with the control circuit 44 by respective flexible wiring boards 47, 48 provided therefrom." Nakanishi at col. 7:23-35. Nakanishi is entirely silent as to any teaching or suggestion that a "flexible printed cable extends in a first direction from the first bend to overlap the driver IC and the flexible printed cable has a second bend to extend past the driver IC in a second direction over a printed

circuit board and connects to a touch panel controller, so that the signal applying lines are not contacted with the driver IC," as recited in independent claims 1 and 9.

Arledge fails to cure the deficiencies of the combination of *Kono* and *Nakanishi*. *Arledge* discloses an LCD that "is folded about the dashed line 72 as shown by the arrow 75." *Arledge* at col. 3:38-39 and FIGs. 5-6. Thus *Arledge* merely discloses folding, the display driver 70 once to position it directly underneath the display area of the LCD package. See *Arledge* at col. 3:39-42. Referring- Figs. 5~6, *Arledge* definitely shows that the drive IC 70 and the conductive runner 66 (compared to "signal applying lines" of the claimed invention) contact each other through the conductive via 68. Therefore, *Arledge* is entirely silent as to any teaching or suggestion that a "flexible printed cable extends in a first direction from the first bend to overlap the driver IC and the flexible printed cable has a second bend to extend past the driver IC in a second direction over a printed circuit board and connects to a touch panel controller, **so that the signal applying lines are not contacted with the driver IC,**" as recited in independent claims 1 and 9.

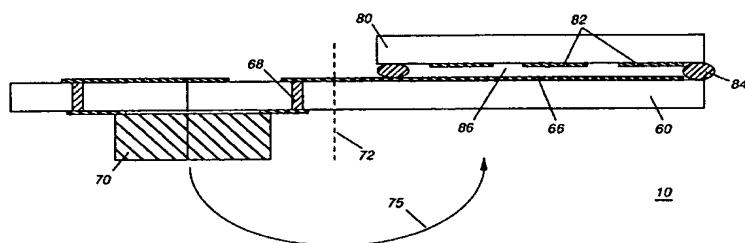


FIG. 5

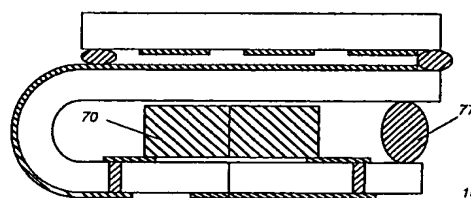


FIG. 6

Murakami fails to cure the deficiencies of *Kono*, *Nikanishi*, and *Arledge*. Indeed, the Office only relied on *Murakami* to disclose "signal applying lines (122) for applying signals to the metal electrodes (114) on the upper substrate (110) are printed on the upper surface of the first part of the flexible printed cable (190), and the signal applying lines (123) for applying signals to the metal electrodes (134) on the lower substrate (130) are printed on the lower surface of the first part of the flexible printed cable (190)". *Office Action* at p. 7, ¶ 14.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 9 are allowable over *Kono*, *Nikanishi*, *Arledge* and *Murakami* for at least the reasons given for claims 1 and 9.

Applicants note that claims 4, 5, 7, 8 each depends from independent base claim 1 and that each includes by reference all of the limitations of claim 1, while claims 12, 13, 15, and 16 each depends from independent base claim 9 and each includes by reference all of the limitations of claim 9. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15 and 16 are each allowable over *Kono* and other cited references at least based on their dependencies and for the reasons given for the respective base claims 1 and 9.

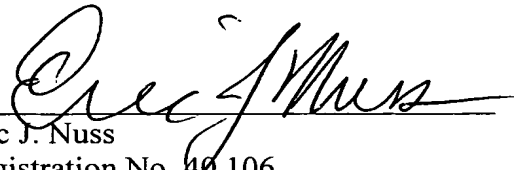
Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911

Respectfully submitted,

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